



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 10, 2019

To: Chief School Administrators of High School Districts, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads (High Schools), Nonpublic Advisory Committee Members

Route To: High School Principals, Guidance Counselors and Teachers

From: Stephanie James Harris, Ph.D., Executive Director  
The Amistad Commission

Due Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Register By: Monday, November 4, 2019

## **The 2019 Malcolm Bernard Historically Black Colleges & Universities Week**

*College Fair of New Jersey and New Jersey Rising Scholars Recognition Program*

The Amistad Commission once again coordinates the New Jersey Rising Scholars Award Program that is featured as part of the Malcolm Bernard Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) College Fair of New Jersey to celebrate New Jersey Rising Scholars in a recognition and awards luncheon. It is an excellent opportunity for high-achieving New Jersey students interested in attending an HBCU to experience a level of personal attention to the admissions process, gaining appropriate guidance, as well as early acceptance and merit-based university scholarships.

The New Jersey Rising Scholars Recognition Program recognizes high school seniors graduating in the 2019-20 school year who are leaders in their school and communities. Moreover, the program acknowledges students from diverse backgrounds who are interested in attending an HBCU and who have defined career and educational goals. Students selected as 2019 New Jersey Rising Scholars are eligible to be considered for one of the HBCU Rising Scholars Fund Scholarships.

### **Rising Scholars Eligibility**

The recognition ceremony for New Jersey Rising Scholars will be held on Sunday, November 17, 2019; accepted Rising Scholars are expected to attend. Based on the availability of funds, The Malcolm Bernard HBCU College Fair, Inc., will award a non-recurring scholarship to a select number of graduating high school seniors who enroll in an HBCU in the fall of 2020 and are in need financial assistance.

Current high school seniors who are interested in attending any Historically Black College or University (HBCU) must meet the following criteria:

- Attend a New Jersey public school (including charter schools), or private school or are homeschooled;
- Maintain a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.8 or higher on a 4.0 scale or a 3.0 or higher on a 4.5 scale;
- Achieve a Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score of 900 or above (based on 1600 maximum) or 1250 or above (based on 2400 maximum), or ACT score of 20 or above;
- Application must be postmarked and submitted to the Amistad Commission by October 22, 2019

### **HBCU College Fair Highlights**

This year's fair again features:

- At least 44 HBCU Admissions representatives gathered together in one place to meet one-on-one with students and parents to talk about their respective colleges and answer questions;
- College application fee waivers to expedite the enrollment process;

- On-site admissions acceptance for those with completed applications, official transcripts with GPA and ACT/SAT test scores; and
- Workshops to help educators, students, and parents with the college application process, determine affordability, negotiate the financial-aid application process, scholarships and grants, and plan for a successful college experience.

The 2019 New Jersey Recognition Program Guidelines and Application are now available on the [NJDOE website](#).

If you have questions regarding the fair or the Rising Scholar application, please contact:

The Malcolm Bernard HBCU College Fair  
(732) 305-7003

[www.hbcu-cfnj.com](http://www.hbcu-cfnj.com)

or

The Amistad Commission  
(609) 376-9062

[amistad@doe.state.nj.us](mailto:amistad@doe.state.nj.us)

2019 HBCU NJ College Fair Schedule (see 2019 flyer for additional locations):

Sunday, November 17, 2019  
Mercer County Community College  
100 Old Trenton Road  
West Windsor, NJ 08550

Thursday, November 21, 2019  
New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)  
150 Bleeker Street  
Newark, NJ 07102

Tuesday, November 19, 2019  
BB&T Pavilion  
(formerly Susquehanna Bank Center)  
1 Harbor Boulevard  
Camden NJ 08103

Friday, November 16, 2019  
Raritan Valley Community College  
118 Lamington Road  
Branchburg, NJ 08876

c: Members, State Board of Education  
Lamont O. Repollet, EdD, Commissioner  
NJDOE Staff  
Garden State Coalition of Schools  
NJ LEE Group  
Barbara Bernard